

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 11 is amended by this response. No claims are canceled or added.
Accordingly, claims 1-21 remain pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that there are minor informalities in the specification. Accordingly, Applicants have corrected errors that they have become aware of in the specification.

Claim 11 is amended to clarify that it is the implantation tool that is operated.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Narayan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,181,538 dated 1/1/1980) in view of Wu et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2005/0124080 filed 12/19/2003) and Wack et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,818,459). As indicated in the attached statement filed herewith, Semiconductor Manufacturing International (Shanghai) Corporation hereby affirms that subject matter in Wu et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2005/0124080 filed 12/19/2003) and present invention were, at the time the invention was made, subject to an obligation of assignment to and commonly owned by Semiconductor Manufacturing International (Shanghai) Corporation. Accordingly, the reference to Wu et al. is not available as prior art to the instant application 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and the instant claim rejections have been traversed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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